

I. REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These remarks are submitted in response to the Office Action of September 8, 2006 (Office Action). As this response is timely filed within the 3-month shortened statutory period, no fee is believed due. As a result of this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 11, and 13 have been amended and Claims 7 and 14 have been canceled.

In paragraph 2, page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 1-6, 9-13, and 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,303,393 to Noreen et al.

In paragraph 4, page 6 of the Office Action, Claims 8 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noreen in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0107029 to Walker et al.

II. Applicant's Invention

It may be helpful to reiterate certain aspects of Applicant's invention prior to addressing the references cited in the Office Action. The invention, for example, provides a digital audio system comprising a receiver coupled to a radio frequency modulator, a source signal modulated by the radio frequency modulator to provide a modulated signal, an external antenna for receiving the source signal and for transmitting the modulated signal, and a series of attenuators and low pass filters coupled to the radio frequency modulator and a splitter for splitting the modulated signal between a first path toward the external antenna and a second path toward an internal antenna coupled to the radio frequency modulator.

III. The Claims Define Over the art

Although the Applicant respectfully disagrees with the assessment of Noreen and Walker as applied to the claims herein, the Applicant agrees with the Examiner that the prior art of record fails to disclose a digital audio system that comprises "a series of attenuators and low pass filters coupled to the radio frequency modulator and a splitter for splitting the modulated signal between a first path toward the external antenna and a second path toward an internal antenna coupled to the radio frequency modulator" as

claimed in amended claims 1 and 11. The Applicant has included these limitations in the dependent claims to expedite prosecution.

IV. CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that this application is now in full condition for allowance. Allowance is therefore respectfully requested. Applicants request that the Examiner call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any matter within this Amendment, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

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